



REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are resubmitted without amendment. New claims 9-15 are added.

Section 102 rejections

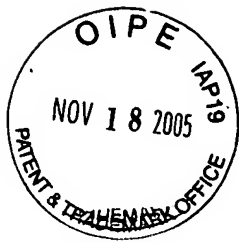
The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Sanford et al., 5,335,796 or Edgerton, 6,283,312. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Neither of the cited art is functional for Applicant's purpose. Sanford discloses a carousel of rods for the purpose of holding greeting cards. It is apparent that the rods are much too closely spaced to function as a holder of envelope packages. This of course is because greeting cards and envelope packages have entirely different shapes. One would not look to the art of holding greeting cards to solve a problem in the art of holding envelope packages.

Edgerton discloses a rack that holds envelope packages, but solves the problem in far too complex a manner. Edgerton requires that each envelope package be equipped with a special clip. This is exactly the kind of complexity that Applicant's invention is meant to avoid. Applicant's invention is therefore a vast improvement over Edgerton's complicated scheme. Applicant therefore believes the claims to be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

New Claims 9-15

New claims are added, namely a set of method claims that parallel claims 1-7.



CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Office Action with respect to Claims 1-8 is requested. Allowance of new claims 9-15 is requested.

In the event the examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response,
please contact the attorney at the telephone number identified below.

Respectfully submitted,

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